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The steamship *Maria Herrera* arrived on the 18th, having been disinfecting at Santiago. The vessel was held in quarantine to complete the period of detention of some nonimmune passengers, but other passengers were allowed to land. The vessel left the same day for San Juan, carrying detained passengers, as this station is not equipped for such detention.

The last report from the local board of health gave 3 cases of small-pox closely quarantined in the city; also 1 case of typhus fever.

Respectfully,

W. W. KING,

Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

The SURGEON-GENERAL,

U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

[Inclosure.]

Number and causes of deaths in Ponce jurisdiction (city, playa, and surrounding country) for the two weeks ended March 24, 1900.

Infectious diseases—	Deaths.
Tuberculosis.....	17
Malarial fever.....	7
Pernicious fever.....	2
Tetanus.....	2
Dysentery.....	1
Typhoid fever.....	1
Pyæmia.....	1
Diseases of the digestive apparatus.....	26
Diseases of the respiratory system.....	9
Diseases of the circulatory system.....	5
Diseases of the nervous system.....	3
Other diseases (anæmia, inanition, etc.).....	28
Total.....	102
Births in the same period.....	59

SALVADOR.

Yellow fever at San Salvador.

WASHINGTON, D. C., April 9, 1900.

SIR: I have the honor, by direction of the Secretary of State, to inform you that the Department is in receipt of a telegram from the consul of the United States at San Salvador, Salvador, dated April 8, 1900, which reads as follows: "Yellow epidemic."

Respectfully,

THOS. W. CRIDLER,

Third Assistant Secretary.

Hon. SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY.

SCOTLAND.

Bone dust from Bombay as ballast may carry plague.

GLASGOW, SCOTLAND, February 10, 1900.

SIR: Referring to my cablegram of the 3d instant I have the honor to invite the attention of the Bureau to the shipment of bone dust from Bombay to the United States via Glasgow. The bones from which this is prepared are collected within a radius of 500 miles around Bombay, and their origin must necessarily be doubtful. I am informed that the steamship companies carry this cargo at a nominal rate in preference to ballast, and if there were any quarantine restrictions placed on its shipment the steamship companies would refuse to take it. Owing